

Butler Township Fire Department

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DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

TO: The Honorable Tony Hall

FROM: Chief Wiltrout

SUBJECT: FCC Rules Part 88

DATE: 19 Apr 93

RECEIVED
MAY 11 '93
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY
m-0-4

I am writing to express my concern over the proposed FCC rule changes, Private Radio Docket 92-235 also known as FCC rules part 88. While I understand the need to address the problem of limited radio frequencies for seeming unlimited frequency users there are two parts of the proposed changes that would have a devastating effect on emergency services radio users- police, fire, and emergency medical services:

1. Channel Splitting - As I understand this proposal, none of my (or anybody else's) current radio equipment can be modified to accept the new spacing. I also understand that new equipment will be much more expensive and even then the quality of transmission will be less than what we have now. Most fire departments in the country are struggling now to just maintain levels of service with shrinking resources. Who is going to pay for my department to buy 108 new radios? We can't just add on to the cost of a product like a business can. We must ask the voters for additional tax money to replace perfectly good radios.
2. Frequency Stability - I understand that this would also require buying new equipment. I object to this on the same grounds as mentioned above.
3. Frequency Coordination - The current system frequency coordination seems to work fine. For safety of both our personnel and the public we serve we need to have someone looking out for our welfare. We can not be sharing frequencies with taxi cabs and street sweepers.

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The Honorable Tony Hall

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April 19, 1993

I hope my comments will help you in dealing with PR Docket 92-235. If these changes must be made by the FCC they must be accompanied by FCC funding to make new radios available if we are to continue serving the public at our current level. If I may answer any questions please contact me at the above address or at 513-890-2491.

Sincerely,

Charles A. Wiltrout

Charles A. Wiltrout

Chief B.T.F.D.

CAW/pp

Copy: Mr. Ralph A. Haller
Federal Communications Commission